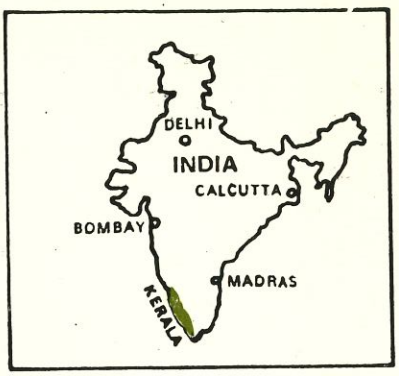
india

Kerala



Veli Lagoon

...its string of many ports, had played a decisive role in shaping the history of Kerala. As far back as the 3rd Century B.C. Egyptians, Phoenecians,Chinese and Babylonians had trade relations with Kerala. In 1498 the Portuguese landed in Kerala. In the early

...entury the Dutch, ...rench and the ...h too were lured ...rala by her wealth ...ry, teak and spices ...inger, cinnamon, ...mom and pepper. ...hinese fishing ...nd the Jewish ...ogue at Cochin, ...t Churches at ...attur, Fort Cochin ...sewhere, forts ...nnanore, Telli- ..., Anjengo and ...uram are monu- ... that speak of the foreign influence.

Art forms, most of which used to be performed within temple precincts, speak volumes of Kerala's cultural Past. Chakiyar Koothu, Koodiyattom and similar temple arts were originally presented in Koothambalam of the temples.

Kathakali, the Pantomime dance-drama, draws its themes from the epics Ramayana and Mahabaratha.

Another well known art form is Kalaripayattu, the martial art of Kerala which was taught in the Kalari-institutions where young men were trained in the art of weaponry and fighting.

Kerala is the land of highly articulate and literate people - a land where rockets take off from palm-fringed beaches and sophisticated equipment is assembled in thatched huts, where you can jet in from anywhere in the world, to bask on a golden beach or float on a fisherman's catamaran (raft) on a clear blue sea. Kerala is famous the world over for its verdant scenery and unsullied beaches, its colourful dances and herbal massages, its delectable cuisine and romantic history.

NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

TRIVANDRUM

The capital of Kerala. Palaces, Art Gallery, observatory, zoo and museum, aquarium, the beach, Sree Padmanabha Swami Temple—there is lot to see. For conducted tours, contact: KTDC Reception Centre, Thampanoor.

NEYYAR DAM

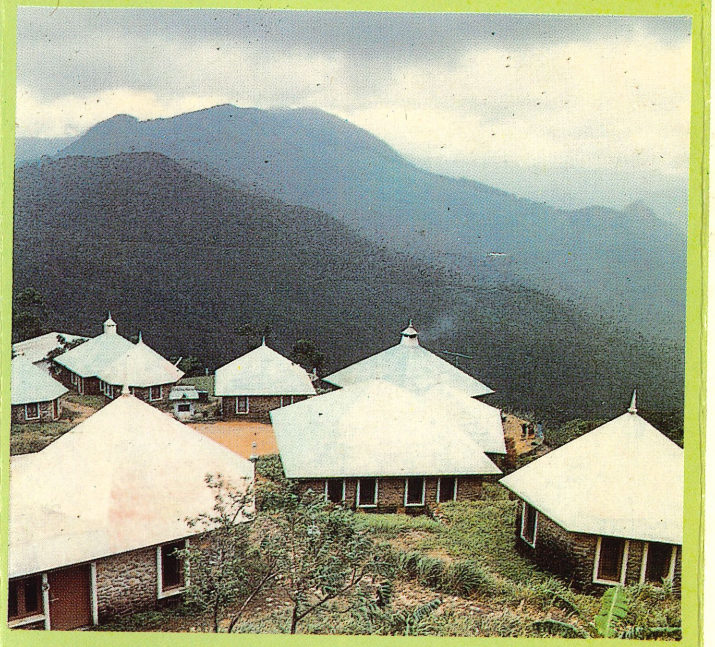
Nestling in the mountains in a quiet, serene setting, the Neyyar Dam is a very popular picnic spot. Ideal for trekking and hiking. Neyyar Dam also has the famous Ashram where annual Yoga class attracts people from the world over.

CAPE COMORIN

The land's end, where two seas and an ocean meet. The temple, the sunset and sunrise, the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial, the Vivekananda Rock, the beach with its coloured sands—the charms and sights of Cape Comorin are many.

KOVALAM

The world-renowned beach resort iust 14 km from Trivandrum. Ideal sea bathing facilities, lovely scenery, fine hotels (of both ITDC & KTDC) and easy accessibility—all these have made Kovalam a tourist magnet. A catamaran ride in the sea or strolling on the sandy beaches, the Kovalam experience is unforgettable.



PONMUDI:

65 km from Trivandrum, Ponmudi is an exhilarating hill-station. Known for its salubrious climate, the tea plantations, lush vegetation and enchanting scenery, Ponmudi offers cottage type accommodation, a Guest House and conference facilities. For reservation contact the Manager, Ponmudi Tourist Resort. PONMUDI (via Nedumangad), Kerala. Phone : Vithura 30

For further details:
Government of Kerala
Tourist Information Centre
Department of Tourism
* Park View, TRIVANDRUM 695 033 Phone: 61132
* 219, Kanishka Shopping Plaza
19 Ashok Road, NEW DELHI 110 001.
*28, C in C Road, MADRAS 600 105

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TRIVANDRUM—695 001.
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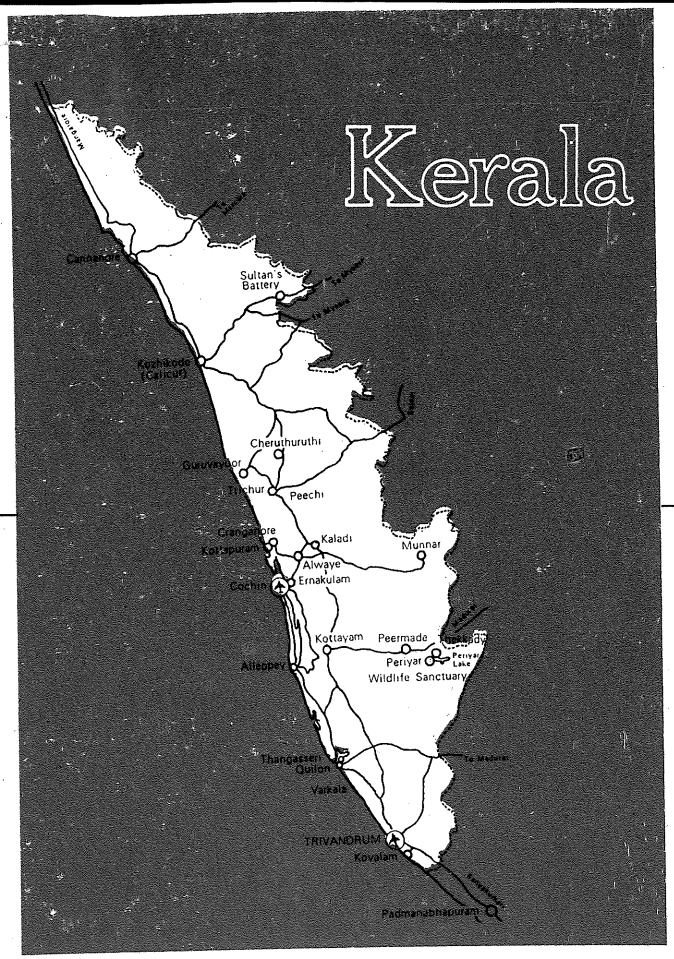
Veli Lagoon

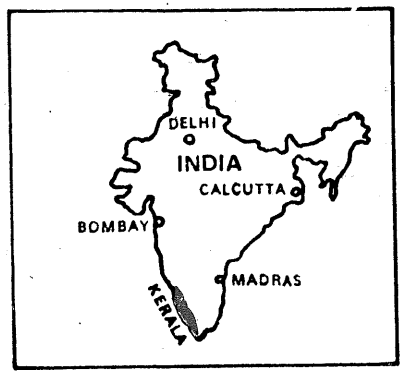
Veli Lagoon

The Youth Hostel at Veli, which is hardly 3 km from the airport, provides inexpensive dormitory type accommodation. Veli with its palm-fringed lake is easily accessible by road. The tranquil atmosphere, the scenic beauty and the new facilities for boating are something every visitor will find irresistible.

On the outskirts of Kerala's capital, by the side of the placid waters of Veli Lake, the Boat Club attracts the city people and tourists. Veli today is being developed as a major tourist spot, by providing a variety of facilities. Pedal-boating, row-boating, swimming, get-together at Boat Club–Veli is just the right place for an exciting outing.

HOW TO REACH: Veli is well connected by city bus service from East Fort via Valiathurai and from Senate Hall Bus Stop.





Kerala, according to legend, was a gift of Parasurama one of the ten avatars (incarnations) of Lord Vishnu. It is believed that he threw his battle axe into the sea, to atone for his sin of slaying generations of Kshatriyas, and the sea receded creating the land-mass, Kerala.

The long stretch of the Kerala coast line, of about 575 Km. with its string of many ports, had played a decisive

17th century the Dutch, the French and the English too were lured to Kerala by her wealth of ivory, teak and spices like ginger, cinnamon, cardamom and pepper. The Chinese fishing nets and the Jewish Synagogue at Cochin, ancient Churches at Malayattur, Fort Cochin and elsewhere, forts at Cannanore, Tellicherry, Anjengo and Pallipuram are monuments that speak of the foreign influence.

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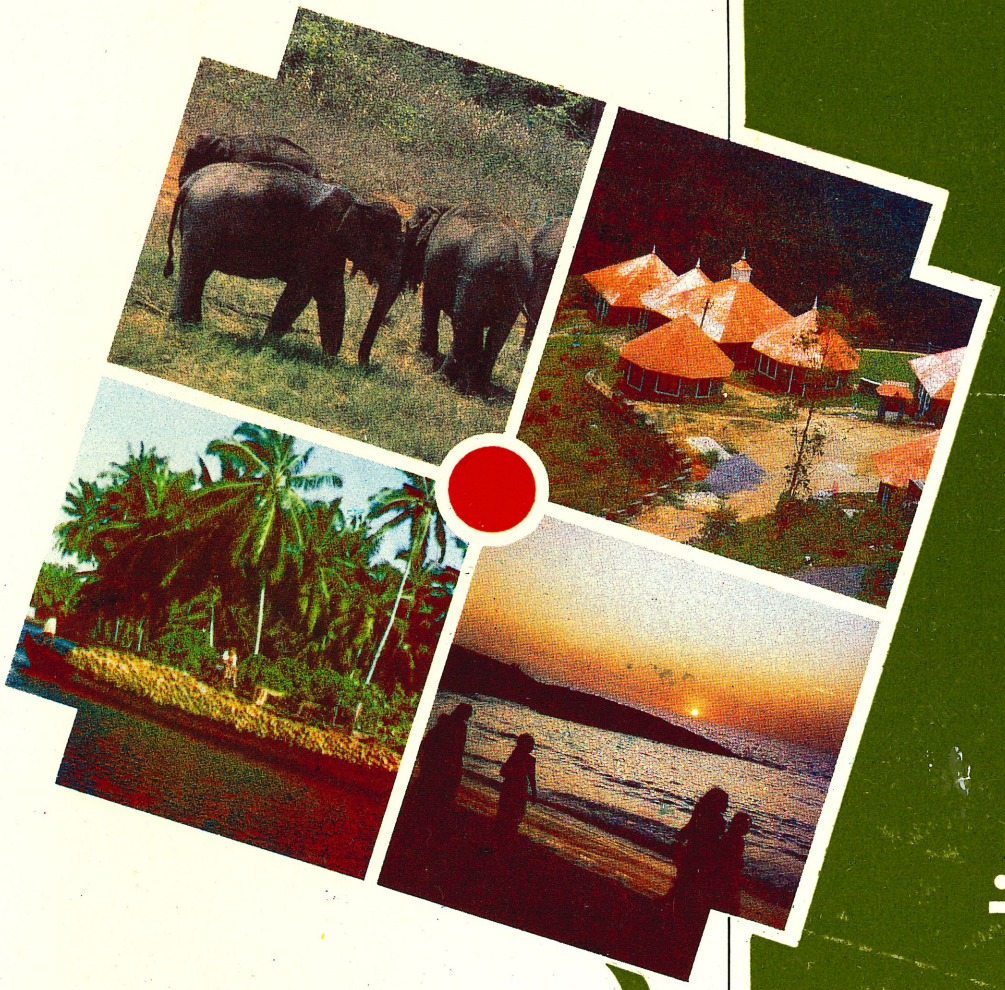

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director, department of tourism
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